ABSTRACT

Thesis Title	:	The Uses of Information Technology in Reference Works of Libraries in the Private Universties
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The purpose of this paper was twofold : (1) To investigate the status and problems in use of information technology (IT) in reference works of libraries in the private universities ; and (2) To compare problems in use of information technology among the users, who were different in education levels and subject fields, and reference work experience. The sample used in the research was 42 reference works of libraries in the private universities , which were selected through stratified random sampling. The data were obtained with a questionnaire and analyzed using descriptive statistics, One-way ANOVA and Scheffe's test.

The results were as follows :

1. Information technology used in reference works of libraries in the private universities consisted of computer, CD-ROM, printer, telephone, FAX and modem. Data base system mostly consisted of internet, OPACs, CD-ROM and On-line.

The results obtained from investigating the status and problems in using information technology were as follows ; (1) Microcomputer was used in information searching from database. (2) OPACs were used in information searching . Internet network system was most used in general searching for information. (3) Private university libraries mainly used OPACs for book searching, and ABI/INFORM CD-ROM. (4) Most librarians search CD-ROM databases for users where as Internet network system was for self-service searching.

2. The problems in information technology use were the following : (1) The limited number of computers ($\overline{X}$=2.69) ; (2) The lack of professional advise and solutions to computer and technology problems ($\overline{X}$=3.15) ; (3) Problems with vocabulary regulations for specific subject searching ($\overline{X}$=2.90) ; (4) Users not knowing the topic to search ($\overline{X}$=3.52) .

3. Comparision of the problems in information technology use among users who differed in educational levels and subject fields, and reference work experience showed no differences overall but use of hardware and software was significant at the 0.05 level.